

REMARKS

This Amendment is fully responsive to the final Office Action dated November 24, 2009, issued in connection with the above-identified application. Claims 18-24 are pending in the present application. With this Amendment, claims 18-20 and 24 have been amended. No new matter has been introduced by the amendments made to the claims. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 18-24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ray (article entitled “The Finder: Working with Files and Applications,” Mac OS X Unleashed, November 2001, Sams, Chapter 4, pages 1-15, hereafter “Ray”).

The Applicants have amended independent claims 18 and 24 to more clearly distinguish the present invention from the cited prior art. Independent claim 18 (as amended) recites the following features:

“[a] guidance display device which holds a first display region and a second display region , and a guidance display region for displaying a guidance content, said guidance display device comprising:

a first guidance display unit configured to display first display data in the first display region;

a second guidance display unit configured to display second display data in the second display region; and

a third guidance display unit configured to display, in the guidance display region, a synthesized or combined guidance content which is synthesized or combined from a first guidance content for operating the first display data displayed in the first display region and a second guidance content for operating the second display data displayed in the second display region,

wherein the guidance display region is separate from the first and second display regions.” (Emphasis added).

The features noted above in independent claim 18 are similarly recited in independent claim 24. Specifically, independent claim 24 is a corresponding method claim reciting steps

directed to the features of the device of independent claim 18. Additionally, the features noted above in independent claim 18 (and similarly recited in independent claim 24) are fully supported by the Applicants' disclosure.

The present invention (as recited in independent claims 18 and 24) is distinguishable from the cited prior art in that the device and method of the present invention provide a guidance display which can appropriately display guidance display content in an efficient way according to changes in operational specifications and so on.

The present invention can achieve such an object by synthesizing or combining first and second guidance display contents in a guidance display region that is separate from the first and second display regions, which allows saving space within the screen region. Thus, it is possible to produce a more advantageous effect when the device has a smaller screen region.

More specifically, a first guidance display unit displays first display data in a first display region; and a second guidance display unit displays second display data in a second display region. Additionally, a third guidance display unit displays, in a guidance display region, a synthesized or combined guidance content which is synthesized or combined from a first guidance content for operating the first display data displayed in the first display region and a second guidance content for operating the second display data displayed in the second display region, wherein the guidance display region is separate from the first and second display regions.

In the Office Action, the Examiner relies on Ray for disclosing or suggesting all the features recited in independent claims 18 and 24.

Ray discloses or suggests a convenient way for viewing pictures and other forms of supported QuickTime media. Additionally, as described in Ray, when an application or a file cannot be previewed, information about the file can be displayed such as creation/modification dates, size and versions.

However, the Applicants assert that Ray fails to disclose or suggest the features now recited in independent claims 18 and 24 (as amended) for at least the reasons noted below.

First, the present invention (as recited in independent claims 18 and 24) is characterized by displaying, in the guidance display region, a synthesized or combined guidance content which

is synthesized or combined from a first guidance content and a second guidance content.

In the Office Action, the Examiner relies on Ray at page 13 and Fig. 4.12 for disclosing or suggesting the first guidance content and the first display region of the present invention (as recited in independent claims 18 and 24). Specifically, the Examiner alleges that the claimed first guidance content corresponding to the first display region corresponds to "Shared, test" in Fig. 4.12-left most column of Ray; and the claimed second guidance content corresponding to the second display region corresponds to "Amy, BMS 2.5f, ... , sites" in Fig. 4.12-center column of Ray. In addition, the Examiner judges that Ray discloses the above-described features of the present invention (as recited in independent claims 18 and 24) because the left most column and the center column are displayed side-by-side.

However, the present invention (as recited in independent claims 18 and 24) is directed *inter alia* to a guidance display region that "is separate from the first and second display regions." To the contrary, Ray discloses a guidance region including a left most column and a center column (i.e., the first and second display regions). Thus, the present invention (as recited in independent claims 18 and 24) is clearly different from Ray with regard to the above feature of the present invention.

Furthermore, according to the Examiner, the left most column in Fig. 4.12 of Ray corresponds to the first display region of the present invention and displays the first guidance content; and the center column in Fig. 4.12 of Ray corresponds to the second display region of the present invention and displays the second guidance content.

However, the present invention (as recited in independent claims 18 and 24) is directed to displaying, in the first display region, the first display data (not the first guidance content) that is to be operated according to the first guidance content; and displaying, in the second display region, the second display data (not the second guidance content) that is to be operated according to the second guidance content.

Thus, the present invention (as recited in independent claims 18 and 24) is distinguishable from Ray with regard to at least the following features:

- (i) displaying the first display data in the first display region;

- (ii) displaying the second display data in the second display region; and
- (iii) displaying, in the guidance display region, a synthesized or combined guidance content which is synthesized or combined from a first guidance content for operating the first display data and a second guidance content for operating the second display data.

Based on the above discussion, Ray fails to anticipate or render obvious the features of independent claims 18 and 24 (as amended). Likewise, Ray fails to anticipate or render obvious the features of claims 19-23 at least by virtue of their dependencies from independent claim 18.

In light of the above, the Applicants submit that all the claims are patentable over the prior art of record. The Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections presented in the outstanding Office Action, and pass the present application to issue. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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February 18, 2010